

Message Text

MRN: 1974MANAGU004192 SEGMENT NUMBER: 000001 ERROR READING TEXT INDEX

FILE; TELEGRAM TEXT FOR THIS SEGMENT IS UNAVAILABLE

ADP000

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-04 INR-05

LAB-01 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 AID-05 PC-01 OMB-01

NIC-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 L-01 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 /060 W

----- 126582

P R 251910Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5375

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

USIA

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MANAGUA 4192

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

ABOUT RAISING ISSUE OF PRESS FREEDOM INTERNATIONALLY. THE EMERGING POSSIBILITY OF CONFRONTATION WITH CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IS PRESUMABLY ALSO CONSIDERED NEGATIVELY BY MANY SOMOCISTAS WHO ARE RELUCTANT TO SEE MOST VIGOROUS SECTOR OF ECONOMY (AS RESULT OF POST-EARTHQUAKE RECONSTRUCTION) BROUGHT TO A STANDSTILL.

6. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN SOME SPECULATION THAT GUARDIA OFFICERS INSISTED CHAMORRO BE PUNISHED FOR ASSAULT ON INTEGRITY OF ARMED FORCES, AND MINGOVERNMENT LEANDOR MARIN CLAIMED TO DCM THAT GUARDIA SECURITY CHIEF GENERAL SAMUEL GENIE WAS THE MOVING FORCE BEHIND THE CHARGES, MOST OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT MARIN HIMSELF AND CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT CORNELIO HUECK ARE AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS. WHATEVER HARD-LINER IS MOST COMMITTED TO PURSUING CASE, IT IS CLEAR THAT DECISION HAS SOMOZA'S APPROVAL, AT LEAST FOR THE MOMENT.

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7. THERE ARE IMPLICATIONS IN SOTO/CHAMORRO CASE FOR SETTING TONE
FOR GON TREATMENT OF POLITICAL OPPONENTS UNDER NEW ADMINISTRATION.
IF ATTEMPT TO CHASTEN CHAMORRO FAILS IN COURT OR BLOWS UP INTO
GENERAL CONSTRUCTION STRIKE, SOMOZA'S CONFIDENCE IN HARD-LINE
ADVISORS LIKE HUECK AND MARIN MAY BE SHAKEN AND HE MIGHT TURN TOWARD
MORE CONCILIATORY APPROACHES. IF ON THE OTHER HAND INJURY AND
CALUMNY LAW PROVES TO BE EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENT FOR RESTRAINING
LA PRENSA, HARD-LINERS WOULD BE VINDICATED.
SHELTON

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Disposition Authority: shawdg
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Disposition Reason:
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